



Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates

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PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (I-JAG) is a bi-partisan school-to-work/life transition and dropout prevention program for youth facing multiple barriers to high school graduation, continued education and employment. It is modeled after a highly successful, nationally proven program that is in 26 states. The I-JAG program is located in 14 sites, 17 classrooms statewide and will expand into additional sites as funding allows. The program provides:

- Increased graduation and attendance rates
- Workplace competencies that aid in effective school to life transitions
- 12 months of post-high school follow-up to assure success
- Individualized career planning with students and their families
- Increased student aspirations and self confidence
- A strong foundation in teamwork, volunteerism and leadership

Performance data indicates the I-JAG model has proven to be effective at reducing high dropout rates, improving attendance, increasing student GPA, improving graduation rates, and successfully transitioning students into continued education and employment. These goals are achieved by reconnecting students to family, school and community through a solid curriculum and a dedicated staff person whose full responsibility is only to the I-JAG students. I-JAG has served over 2,500 students in partnership with 14 Iowa schools, helping to improve the quality of their education, life choices and workforce competencies.

PERFORMANCE DATA:

<u>Description</u>	<u>State of Iowa Average</u>	<u>I-JAG Average</u>	<u>JAG National Network Avg.</u>	<u>JAG National Standards</u>
Graduation Rate:	89.4%	92%	89%	90%
Minority Rate:	5.5%	18%	42%	NA
Economically Disadvantaged Rate:	29.2%	46%	53%	NA
*Positive Outcome Rate:	NA	82%	78%	NA
Average # of barriers per student:	NA	7.24	5.80	

	<u>2003-2004 School year</u>	<u>2004-2005 School year</u>	<u>JAG National Standards</u>
Transition to Post-Secondary:	26%	Data available	NA
Transition to Employment:	70%	July 2006	60%
Full-time Placement:	94%		80%

Description	Program Entry (3 Yr. Avg.)	Program Exit (3 Yr. Avg.)	Avg. difference
Cumulative Grade Point Avg. (on a 4.0 Scale)	1.85	2.07	0.22
Days Absent	13.3days	10.3 days	3.0 days

FUNDING FACTS:

- Average cost per student: \$1,500.00
- Cost to Local School District: \$10,000.00
- Cost to run an I-JAG Program locally: \$60,000.00
- Funding (Public/Private Partnership):
 - 35% Workforce Investment Act
 - 36% State of Iowa
 - 20% Private Sector
 - 9% Local Contributions

WHY SUPPORT I-JAG:

- Expanding the I-JAG program beyond 17 sites will help Iowa assure schools provide extra help to students working to reduce the dropout rate and increase the transfer to post-secondary rate.
- The I-JAG program is the most cost effective and successful dropout prevention program in the state.
- I-JAG is a public/private partnership. The I-JAG BOD is committed to raising funds to offset the program costs to local schools.

*The positive outcomes valued in the JAG Model include: employment (full-time or part-time); postsecondary enrollment; or full-time military. The Positive Outcome Rate is computed by dividing the number of Positive Outcomes by the number of graduates.